



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

741·2 grains of carbon, being 196·7 grains more than it had received; and it had also gained in absolute weight 27 grains. The conclusion which the author deduces from these experiments is, that carbon is actually formed or secreted by animals.

May 9, 1844.

JAMES WALKER, Esq., V.P., in the Chair.

“On the Hyssop of Scripture.” By J. F. Royle, M.D., F.R.S., &c.

Many attempts have at different times been made, by various authors, to identify the plant which, in our authorized version of the Scriptures, is translated *Hyssop*. The author enters at large into the history of the speculations of former writers on this subject; and after an elaborate investigation, is led to the conclusion that this plant is the *Capparis spinosa* of Linnæus, or Caper plant, a shrub abundantly met with in the south of Europe, where it appears to be indigenous, and also generally on the islands and coasts of the Mediterranean, as well as in Lower Egypt and in Syria.

May 16, 1844.

The MARQUIS OF NORTHAMPTON, President, in the Chair.

1. “On the Measurement of Distances by the Telescope.” By Edmund Bowman, Esq., C.E. Communicated by S. Hunter Christie, Esq., Sec. R.S.

The method proposed by the author for determining distances by means of a telescope, consists in placing, at the spot of which the distance is required, a graduated staff, and observing the number of its divisions comprehended in the field of the telescope, or included between fixed points in a diaphragm placed in the focus of the eyeglass. He finds that the number of these divisions, apparent in the field of view, are directly as the distance of the staff, plus a certain constant, which depends on the construction of the instrument. The author investigates the value of this constant, and illustrates the practical applications of his method, which he thinks might be employed with great advantage in surveying, when, from irregularities of ground or difficulties of access, the direct measurement by the chain would be inconvenient or impossible.

2. “An Account of some Experiments exhibiting new instances of the Absorbing Power of Streams; with a few remarks on the Pulsation of Jets.” By Mr. G. Robinson. Communicated by W. Bowman, Esq., F.R.S.

The experiments of which an account is given in this paper